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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
09/883,779	06/18/2001	Daniel T. Johnson	6740.01	2427
25763	7590 01/27/2005		EXAM	INER
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP			POINVIL, FRANTZY	
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 50 SOUTH SIXTH STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-1498			3628	

DATE MAILED: 01/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summer		09/883,779	JOHNSON ET AL.				
Office Action S	ummary	Examiner	Art Unit				
		Frantzy Poinvil	3628				
The MAILING DATE o Period for Reply	f this communication appe	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address				
THE MAILING DATE OF TH  - Extensions of time may be available to after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing of the period for reply specified above to NO period for reply is specified abour Failure to reply within the set or extension.	HIS COMMUNICATION.  under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13/ ing date of this communication.  is less than thirty (30) days, a reply ye, the maximum statutory period wi ided period for reply will, by statute, than three months after the mailing	IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(5)  6(a). In no event, however, may a reply be time within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days Il apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the properties of the application to become ABANDONED date of this communication, even if timely filed	ely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. O (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status							
1) Responsive to commu	inication(s) filed on <u>05 No</u>	vember 2004.					
2a) ☐ This action is <b>FINAL</b> .							
3) Since this application	) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is						
closed in accordance	with the practice under Ex	k parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	3 O.G. 213.				
Disposition of Claims							
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> is/are po	ending in the application.						
	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.							
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> is/are re	6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-45</u> is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are	<del>-</del>						
8) Claim(s) are su	bject to restriction and/or	election requirement.					
Application Papers							
9) The specification is obj	ected to by the Examiner						
10) The drawing(s) filed on	i is/are: a)□ acce	pted or b) objected to by the E	Examiner.				
Applicant may not reques	st that any objection to the d	rawing(s) be held in abeyance. See	37 CFR 1.85(a).				
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	on is required if the drawing(s) is obj	• •				
11) ☐ The oath or declaration	n is objected to by the Exa	aminer. Note the attached Office	Action or form PTO-152.				
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119							
12)☐ Acknowledgment is ma a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)		oriority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)	-(d) or (f).				
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.							
2. Certified copies	of the priority documents	have been received in Application	on No				
3. Copies of the ce	ertified copies of the priori	ty documents have been receive	d in this National Stage				
	the International Bureau						
* See the attached detaile	ed Office action for a list of	f the certified copies not receive	d.				
Attachment(s)	·						
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-		4) Interview Summary					
<ol> <li>Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Disclosure Statement</li> </ol>		Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal Pa	te atent Application (PTO-152)				
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/03/05</u> .	(4) (1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	6) Other:					

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-9, 11-18, 20-28 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Northington et al (US Patent No. 6,128,602).

As per claims 1-9, 11-18, 20-28, 30, 31 and 33-37, Northington et al disclose a system and method for the real-time consolidation of information from multiple financial systems. In so doing, Northington et al teach a system for managing a plurality of assets of a plurality of distributed enterprises and allowing a user to access asset information. See the abstract. Northington et al disclose a central processor, a database for storing and tracking asset information for the plurality of assets of the plurality of enterprises, the database in communication with the central processor wherein the central processor tracks information relevant to managing each of the assets. Applicant is directed to figures 1-3 and column 2, line 29 to column 4, line 20.

Northington et al. further teach the central processor includes a website hosted by at least one computer in communication with a computer network through a communication link, a client

processor. See figures 1-3. The central processor automatically generates E-mail messages to a service provider in response to a service request by the user. See column 6, lines 23-40. The client processor inputs, queries and downloads asset information from the central processor through a web browser. The central processor is programmed with code for utilizing a user profile, including securable attributes, to limit access to particular asset information. See column 5, lines 35-56 and column 10, lines 14-38 and lines 56-65 of Northington et al. Northington et al further teach the asset interface communicates with the client processor through a wireless communication modality. Note column 5, lines 12-15.

Northington et al. also disclose calculating a total cost of ownership for a particular asset or group of assets by updating all transactions stored in the database. See column 13, lines 7-20 and column 16, lines 7-40.

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
  - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10, 19, 29 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Northington et al (US Patent No. 6,128,602).

As per claims 10 and 32, Northington et al do not explicitly teach the central processor is programmed with code for generating a GIS map locating one of the plurality of enterprise assets. As per this feature, the enterprises or financial systems discussed in Northington et al

may possess a plurality of different types of assets located in different geographic locations.

Using a GIS map for locating assets is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a GIS map for locating assets if the enterprises own assets such as vehicles or transportation assets so as to be informed of their location and conditions so as to better assess the total costs or values of all assets owned

by the enterprise.

As per claim 19, Northington et al do not explicitly teach the user is an equipment manufacturer. The enterprises discussed in Northington et al may deal with a plurality of financial systems and equipment manufacturers. The user being an equipment manufacturer does not bring different functions in the system of Northington et al. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have a user being an equipment manufacturer if the system of Northington et al is dealing with a manufacturer with the motivation to account to all types of assets and manufacturers of assets as would be desired.

As per claim 29, the client processor being a kiosk located at an enterprise is not explicitly stated in Northington et al. Northington et al state that client can be any computer system thus meeting a kiosk.

3. Claims 38-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dilger, Karen Abramic ("Asset management, maintenance redefined), Manufacturing Systems,

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v15n7, pp. 122-128, July 2997, CODEN: MASYES< ISSN: 0748-948X, JRNL CODE: MFS, Dialog file 15, Accession No. 01493159 and/or McGovern et al (5,918,207).

As per claims 38 and 45, Dilger discusses many asset management systems wherein a central database stores information on various assets held by an organization. Users of the organization access a website hosted by at least one server and transmit a service request to the server. See pages 3-7 of the reference. Thus, Dilger discusses receiving a service request at the website for an asset. Dilger does not explicitly teach the steps of automatically selecting an appropriate service provider based on the asset to be serviced and generating an electronic message to the appropriate service provider requesting the service. The Examiner notes that such a step would have been obvious to introduce in the system of Dilger in order to appropriately select a service provider with the proper skill and knowledge capable of servicing the request, thereby providing a much faster rendering of the needed service.

Alternatively, one of ordinary skill in the art would have turned to the teachings of McGovern et al for the teachings of the automatic selection of a service provider capable of fulfilling a service request. See the abstract of McGovern et al. McGovern et al teach a system and method which automatically select a service worker capable of fulfilling a service request based on the information obtained from the service request. See column 10, line 52 to column 11, line 41.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings discussed in Dilger with the teachings McGovern et al in order to devise a method and system for appropriately selecting a service provider with the proper skill

and knowledge capable of servicing a request, thereby providing a much faster rendering of the service request.

As per claim 39, the combined teachings above do not explicitly recite the additional steps of creating a log listing service requests and generating additional electronic messages to the service provider if no response has been forthcoming. Such would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to do in the combined teachings above to reassert the needs of the desired service requests to the service provider, thereby noting the urgency of the desired service.

As per claim 40, in the combination above, the electronic message is an E-mail.

As per claim 41, the combined teaching above does not explicitly state the additional step of attaching asset information onto the E-mail. Such would have been obvious to do by the ordinary skill in the art to do in the combination above in order to inform the service provider of malfunctions of the asset to be serviced so as to expedite repairs of the asset.

As per claim 42, the combination above does not explicitly teach attaching a link to a web page onto the E-mail. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to attach a link to a web page onto the E-mail in the combined teachings above in order to provide the service with sources where further information regarding the asset may be found so as to expedite repairs of the asset.

As per claims 43 and 44, receiving a service report at the website from the service provider would have been obvious to do in the combination above so as to provide service or repairs made regarding the asset. Storing asset information in the service report under an appropriate factor would have also been obvious to do in the combination above in order to

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acknowledge all services made on a particular asset and also to enable easy access and retrieval

of such a record.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Frantzy Poinvil whose telephone number is (703) 305-9779. The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FP

January 21, 2005

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